

Abstract of the Disclosure

This application relates to a method for treating various aspects of alcoholism, 5 including alcohol craving and relapse into alcoholism, by the administration of an effective amount of gaseous anaesthesia to a deep surgical anaesthesia. The method can be applied for the alleviation of addiction and craving associated with amphetamine use, and for the alleviation of psychosis in schizophrenia and the alleviation of psychosis in Alzheimer's disease. In addition, the state of addiction or the state of psychosis, or the 10 state of alcohol withdrawal can be monitored in animal tissue *in vitro* or in humans *in vivo* by measuring the density of the high-affinity states of the dopamine D2 receptors in the striatum or other brains regions containing these receptors which are elevated in these conditions.